

REMARKS

Claim Amendments

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 194, 196, 198, 200-206, 209, 211-215, 217-252, and 302-310. Claims 194, 211-215, 217, 218, and 252 are amended herein. Claims 302-310 are newly added. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the application as filed. For example, support for claims 302-310 can be found at paragraph [0075]. No new matter has been added.

Specification Amendments

Applicants have amended the specification to update the priority of Application Ser. No. 10/179,373 (“the ‘373 application”). Applicants have amended the claim for priority and submitted a petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 in the ‘373 application.

Applicants have amended the Brief Description of the Figures to recite, “Figures 3A-3C contain...” as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants also submit herewith a formal drawing of Figure 1 that legibly shows the names of all T1Rs. The specification has been amended to reflect formal Figures 1a-1b. No new matter has been added.

Applicants note that sequence identifiers are used in the Brief Description of the Figures for the sequences listed in Figures 1a-1b. *See* Second Preliminary Amendment filed on October 12, 2003. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

Statement of Substance of Interview Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.133(b)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.133(b) and M.P.E.P. § 713.04, Applicants herein provide a summary of the interview. Applicants thank Examiner Landsman for agreeing to conduct the interview and appreciate the courtesies extended by the Examiner.

During the interview, the parties agreed to delete the term “umami” and “taste” from claim 194 as this is an inherent property of the heteromeric polypeptides of the invention. The parties also agreed to limit the claims, without prejudice or disclaimer, to human T1R polypeptides, polypeptides encoded by human T1R nucleic acid sequences, polypeptides encoded by nucleic acid sequences that hybridize to human T1R nucleic acid sequences under

stringent hybridization conditions, and polypeptides possessing at least 95% sequence identity to human T1R polypeptides.

Applicants have amended the claims herein to reflect these changes.

The parties also agreed that in claim 194, part (i), the phrase “that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO: 8” does not need to be replaced with “that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 8.” Likewise, the parties agreed that in claim 194, part (ii), the phrase “that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO: 9 or 11” does not need to be replaced with “that hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO: 9 or 11.”

Finally, Applicants argued the provisional double-patenting rejection over co-pending Application Nos. 10/725,080 and 10/725,489 is improper as these co-pending applications, like the instant application, are divisional applications of the ‘373 application and were filed as a result of the restriction requirement set forth in the ‘373 application.

35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

During the interview, the parties agreed that claim 194 did not need to be amended as suggested in the Office Action. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 112, second paragraph rejection.

Provisional Double Patenting

During the interview, Applicants argued the provisional double-patenting rejection over co-pending Application Nos. 10/725,488 and 10/725,489 is improper as these co-pending applications, like the instant application, are divisional applications of the ‘373 application and were filed as a result of the restriction requirement set forth in the ‘373 application. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the provisional double patenting rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that these amendments and remarks should place this application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions relating to this response or the application in general he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

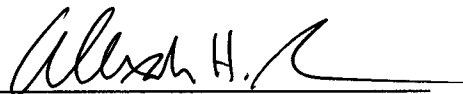
It is believed that no fees are required for entry of this response, but should any fees be necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to the undersigned's **Deposit Account No. 50-0206**.

Respectfully submitted,

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